

Spring-Summer
2013

The Diablo Aviator

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Buchanan Field and Byron Airports - www.buchananfield-byronairports.org

Contra Costa County Airports 5th Annual Tenant Appreciation Barbecue

On May 2nd, Contra Costa County Airports held its 5th Annual Tenant Appreciation Barbecue. The barbecue was a huge success with approximately 320 tenants attending to enjoy the great food and conversation.

Airport staff would like to thank all those who participated in the completing the tenant survey while at the barbecue; Airport staff received 43 completed surveys. Surveys have recently been emailed; if you have not completed a survey please do so now.



Airport Staff Retirements

Contra Costa County Airports recently said farewell to two of its Operations staff due to retirement:

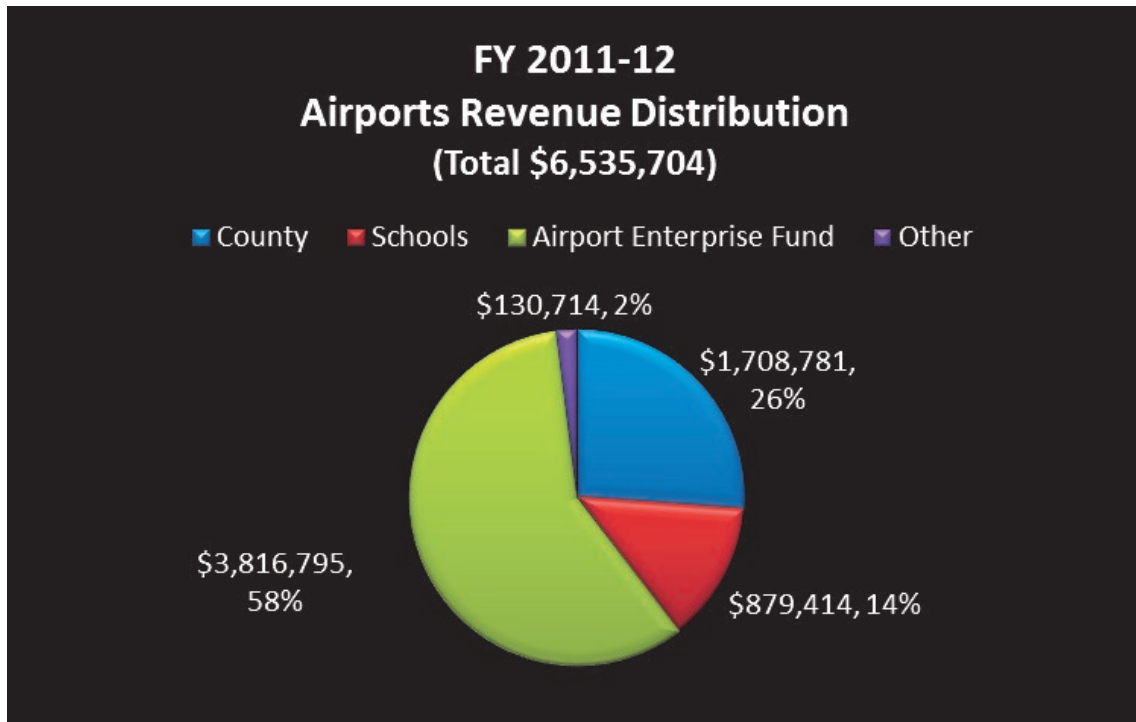
Mark Grosenheider, a long time Airport Operations employee who spent many years at the Byron Airport, had been back at Buchanan Field for this last year of service with the Airports. Mark retired in late November and has joined the Operations staff at the Napa Airport.

In late February, Rob Wangan, an Airport Operations employee, also decided it was time to retire after many years at Buchanan Field Airport. Rob has moved on to explore some of his other interests.

Airport staff wishes both of these long-time employees all their best in their new pursuits.

Did you know ...

- That the Airports Division is self-funded; no property tax or other local revenues are used to run, manage and/or maintain the Buchanan Field and Byron Airports? In fact, the Airports generate revenue for the County, schools and other community-related agencies as shown in the following graph:



According to the 2011-12 Airport tax revenues apportionment, five fire districts, forty-one park and service districts, sixteen cities, eight elementary schools, thirteen higher education school districts, seven water districts, seven sanitary districts, three healthcare entities, two cemeteries, and many other entities receive a portion of the revenue generated by the Airports.

- That the Airports Division offers amenities and programs designed for community members to bring them closer to the world of aviation such as the Public Viewing Plaza (at the north end of John Glenn Drive), the tour program (averaging 490 youth annually), and the holiday Santa Skydive (all proceeds benefit the Contra Costa County Food Bank).

In addition to the County amenities and programs, there are several Airport tenants that provide broader community services and opportunities. These include two air ambulance medical companies, the Sheriff's air patrol, the Experimental Aircraft Association's Young Eagles Program which promotes aviation by giving children ages 7 to 17 a free flight, the Patriot Jet Team Foundation which mentors junior high and high school age students and teaches them about aviation through their Aerospace Academy, and the Collings Foundation's Wings of Freedom tour to name just a few.

New Clubhouse Sign and Public Viewing Plaza Monument

Recently a new sign was installed at the Airport clubhouse and a monument thanking contributors was installed at the Public Viewing Plaza by Michael Chaney, a local boy scout, as his Eagle Scout project. Michael was responsible for not only the design but for every aspect of the project including soliciting donations, researching and purchasing supplies, and construction.



Airport Clubhouse

Airport staff would like to thank the Mt. Diablo Pilot's Association and the Experimental Aircraft Association for all their hard work in renovating the Airport Clubhouse after several years of being boarded up so it could be put back in service. Altogether 2,201 hours were spent on making the renovations and top honors go to the following individuals for so much of their time and energy:

Scott Achelis 550 hours
 Lee Teicheira 355 hours
 Harvard Holmes 250 hours

Bill Reining 144 hours
 Jack Davi 144 hours
 Sara Holmes 122 hours

Thank you also to following members for all your hard work: Tony Dymond, Teeb Thomas, John Potter, Elaine Yearly, Duane Allen, Darrick Gebhartdes, Pete Mitchell, Bill Bowers, Phil Jenkins, Dave Thacker, Eric Schuldt, Rich & Marilyn Sperling, Rich Bourgeois, Tom Howard, Tracy Peters, Bob Torrey, Andrea Achelis, Bob Everett, Guy Jones, Pete Small, Bruce Milan, Will Eby, Bill Coll, Alan Wraa, Bill McCoy, Viola Egli, and Ernst Freitag. You all did an amazing job!

Upcoming Airport Happenings

Buchanan Field:

- East Ramp Hangar Painting Project - Due to start early Summer 2013
- East Ramp Restroom New Coded Entry Locks - June 1, 2013
- Collings Foundation Wings of Freedom Tour — Airport Transient Ramp, June 7 - June 9

Byron Airport:

- Crack Sealing - July 2013